1. Construction of Additional Coal Jetty for handling thermal coal, one more General Cargo Berth adding to the existing six alongside berths and additional warehouses.

2. Procurement of Container Handling Equipments, Front End Loader of 4.3 Cu.M.

3. Provision of Move Refeer Plug Points at storage points, Electronic Weigh Bridges and Container Freight Stations.

4. Conversion of the existing Meter Gauge Railway Line into Broad Gauge Line within Port limit, introduction of Night Pilotage and balance dredging in the Approach Channel so as to facilitate entry of Deep Drafted Vessels.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the Port to attract more international ships :

1. Port charges have been made competitive.

2. Formation of Shippers Service Cell and Importers and Exporters Committee.

3. Publicity through Press and personal contacts, holding of trade promotion meetings.

4. Inducing private entrepreneurs to establish container freight station and other storage facilities.

5. Priority berthing is accorded to Container Ships and Phosphoric Acid Tankers.

Linking of Krishna and Godavari rivers with Cauvery

410. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Govrenment have requested the Central Government to take up the project of linking Krishna and Godavari rivers with Cauvery river to prevent the frequent floods in Andhra Pradesh and to generate employment; and

(b) if so, what action has so far been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agreement between Modi Group and Alcatel of France for manufacture of E.I.O. Exchanges

411. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the joint venture agreement entered into between Modi Group and Alcatel of France for the manufacture of E.I.O. Exchange;

(b) whether the Alcatel of France have offered the 1990 technology to the Modi Group;

(c) whether Government are aware that the same French company have offered to give only 1987 technology to Indian Telephone Industries for upgrading the existing technology;

(d) whether it is a fact that only 6 lakhs lines in E.I.O. Exchanges are required per annum and Mankapur unit of Indian Telephone Industry has got a production capacity of 5 lakhs lines per annum and if so, the reasons for which additional production was permitted in the private sector; and

(e) what are the steps taken to produce small and medium size exchanges required for rural areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government has received an application from M/s. Indian Reprographics Ltd. for a joint venture with ALCATEL of France for production of their latest Digital Switches.

(c) Yes, Sir.